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OCI No. 1973/65

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
3 September 1965

State Department review completed

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

JCS review(s) completed.

Situation in Kashmir

(Report #4 - As of 6:00 am EDT)

1. Major fighting continues in the Chhamb-Akhnur area with the Pakistani advance eastward continuing into the third day. By last night, a Pakistani column was reported threatening Jammu city, the summer capital of the state of Jammu Kashmir and the headquarters of India's 26th Division. Loss of Jammu city would jeopardize India's overland access to the whole of Kashmir and would almost certainly provoke the Indians to a major retaliation.
2. According to an official Pakistani briefing, the decision to mount an armored attack across the ceasefire line in the Chhamb area was made solely to demonstrate to the Indians that they could not with impunity cross the ceasefire line in areas of their own choosing. The thrust was not made, the briefer contended, for the purpose of capturing Akhnur. Pakistan hopes that by refusing to accept confrontation on Indian terms only, the Pakistanis will force the Indians to call off their actions across the line in the north.
3. Two officers from the US military supply mission in India visited Jammu city for several hours on 2 September and, in summary, found the situation confused, the Indian army obviously suffering reverses, and information limited and undependable. According to Indian briefers, Pakistani infantry troops had crossed east of the Tawi River, south of Chhamb, but as of noon on 2 September Pakistani armor remained on the west side of the river. This information conflicts with that of

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a Pakistani briefing of the same time in Karachi to the effect that Pakistani troops had not crossed the river and that there was no fighting then going on in the area. The Indians also told the American officers that they were forming a defensive line approximately 14 miles east of the ceasefire line in that area. The American team was unable to make air observation of Pakistani positions to check allegations that US armor was being used; on the Indian side, it did not see any US-furnished equipment.

4. Shooting continues along most of the ceasefire line from the Chhamb area on north to Tithwal. A UN observer reports a possible Pakistani buildup in progress midway between the Kargil and Tithwal areas in yet another place where the vital road link from Srinagar to Leh can be threatened.

5. Additional encounters have occurred in the air over Kashmir. India claims to have downed at least one Pakistani Sabrejet this morning over the Chhamb battlefield and has charged that a Pakistani jet also bombed and strafed a village 40 miles from Jammu, killing some 40 Muslims in a village mosque. No losses were claimed or admitted in air actions yesterday, but there is an additional report of air action on Monday in which Pakistan reportedly lost two F-86s. India lost four aircraft on Monday.

6. The only reaction yet available to UN Secretary-General Thant's appeal for cessation of hostilities in Kashmir has come from Karachi where the government is "studying" the appeal. No official reaction is available from India at this time. Thant is meanwhile considering again the dispatch of Under-Secretary Ralph Bunche to the area in lieu of a Security Council meeting. Ambassador Goldberg is sounding out Security Council members on the possibility of a meeting in his capacity as President of the Council for September.

7. Canada is exploring possibilities of mediating the dispute, according to the press. Foreign Secretary Martin is said to have met with representatives of the Indian and Pakistani High Commissions in Ottawa yesterday.

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8. A curfew was again imposed in the Indian city of Poona, some 900 miles south of the fighting in Kashmir,

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as a result of Hindu-Muslim communal rioting there which has run into the second day. Police and troops are reported to have fired three times on mobs. India's quick deployment of troops to quell the communal violence in Poona and reports that the East Pakistan government has instituted special police patrols to deter potential communal violence there are indicative of the concern both governments have with the very real possibility of a communal backlash to events in Kashmir.

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both India and Pakistan appear to have reinforced their forces in the Chhamb-Akhnur area with divisions from the Punjab. Elsewhere, it appears that the Pakistan Air Force has gone on full alert, and there is a rumor in Rawalpindi that Pakistani Foreign Minister Bhutto and senior Pakistani officials have been meeting with the Chinese Communist ambassador; this rumor is without confirmation at this time.

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